REAL TIME PUSH OF PRODUCT AVAILABILITY INFORMATION

ABSTRACT

A method of pushing changes in product shipment dates to a catalog that sends an original availability date for products to the catalog and maintains a capacity scheduling system that utilizes a series of capacity buckets to represent the product shipment dates. Each capacity bucket represents an additional shipment delay period. As orders for the product are placed resulting in decreasing quantities in the capacity buckets, the invention detects that the level in the capacity buckets has become less than an established threshold. In addition, the method sends a push signal to the catalog when this detection takes place. Conversely, if the capacity buckets are increased in value as a result of increased manufacturing capability and the quantity in a bucket increases above the threshold, this fact is also pushed out to the catalog.